

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No.: 2-KS-5-12-99

Issued at: Dillingham, July 6, 1999

Effective Date: 8:00 PM Tuesday July 6, 1999

Expiration Date: 11:59 PM Friday, December 31, 1999

Unless superseded by subsequent Emergency Order

### EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Order opens sport fishing for king salmon in the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage and allows a seasonal harvest limit of 2 king salmon, only one of which may exceed 28 inches. This Emergency Order supercedes E.O. 2-KS-5-10-99.

### REGULATION:

5 AAC 67.022 therefore is amended to read:

**5 AAC 67.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS.** (a) This subsection contains codes for fishing seasons and for bag, possession, and size limits, and applicable special provisions, for all fresh waters of the Bristol Bay Area. 5 AAC 67.010 and 5 AAC 67.020 contain the code keys for the codes set out in this subsection.

-continued next page-

BRISTOL BAY AREA - FRESH WATER										
(1) 5 AAC 67.022  WATER	SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS									SPECIAL PROVISIONS
	King Salmon	Other Salmon	Rainbow Trout	Arctic Char/ Dolly Varden	Arctic Grayling	Lake Trout	Northern Pike	Burbot	Other	
<p>(7) NUSHAGAK RIVER drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage and those waters otherwise specified in this subsection.</p> <p>● NUSHAGAK RIVER drainage upstream from its confluence with Harris Creek.<sup>1, 2</sup></p> <p>● NUSHAGAK RIVER drainage from its confluence with Harris Creek downstream to its confluence with the Iowithla River, including the Harris Creek and Iowithla River drainages.</p> <p>● NUSHAGAK RIVER drainage downstream from its confluence with the Iowithla River.</p> <p>● KOKTULI RIVER drainage.<sup>3</sup></p> <p>● KOKWOK RIVER drainage and all waters of the Nushagak River within a 1/4-mile radius of its confluence with the Nushagak River.</p> <p>● NUYAKUK RIVER from the outlet of Tikchik Lake to an island located approximately 2 miles downstream from Nuyakuk Falls.<sup>3</sup></p> <p>● NUYAKUK RIVER downstream from an island located approximately 2 miles downstream from Nuyakuk Falls to its confluence with the Nushagak River.</p>	Closed <sup>4</sup>	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	<p>An emergency order issued under 5 AAC 06.368 could affect the methods and means, bag and possession limits, seasons, and area for coho salmon within the Nushagak River drainage upstream from the department sonar counter located near Portage Creek.</p> <p><sup>1</sup> In that portion of the Nushagak River drainage from its confluence with the Chechitnok River downstream to its confluence with Harris Creek, rainbow trout may not be possessed or retained; all rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> In that portion of the Nushagak River drainage from its confluence with the Chechitnok River downstream to its confluence with Harris Creek, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Closed to king salmon fishing year around; king salmon may not be taken, possessed, or retained.</p>
	14A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	
	5A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	
	14A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	
	Closed <sup>4</sup>	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	
	14A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	
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<p>(7) NUSHAGAK RIVER drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage - <b>CONTINUED.</b></p> <p>● <b>MULCHATNA RIVER</b> drainage, excluding waters specified in this subsection.</p> <p>● <b>MULCHATNA RIVER</b> all flowing waters from an ADF&amp;G regulatory marker located on the Mulchatna River about 1 1/2 miles upstream from the Koktuli River outlet to the ADF&amp;G regulatory marker located about 1 1/2 miles downstream from the Stuyahok River outlet.<sup>3</sup></p> <p>● <b>STUYAHOK RIVER</b> drainage.<sup>3</sup></p> <p>● <b>TIKCHIK RIVER</b> drainage.<sup>3</sup></p> <p>● <b>ALL OTHER WATERS</b> in the Nushagak River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage, not specified in this subsection.</p>	14A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	<p>An emergency order issued under 5 AAC 06.368 could affect the methods and means, bag and possession limits, seasons, and area for coho salmon fishing within the Nushagak River drainage upstream from the department sonar counter located near Portage Creek.</p> <p><sup>1</sup> In that portion of the Nushagak River drainage from its confluence with the Chechitnok River downstream to its confluence with Harris Creek, rainbow trout may not be possessed or retained; all rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> In that portion of the Nushagak River drainage from its confluence with the Chechitnok River downstream to its confluence with Harris Creek, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Closed to king salmon fishing year around; king salmon may not be taken, possessed, or retained.</p>
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	14A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	
	14A	1D	9U, 13W	9F, 13G	1I	1N	1Q	1J	1AB	

**AND REGULATION:**

5 AAC 67.024 therefore is amended to read:

**5 AAC 67.024. HARVEST RECORD REQUIRED; SEASONAL LIMITS.** (b)(2) immediately upon landing a king salmon, the angler shall enter the date, location (water body), and species of the catch in ink, on the harvest record. Anglers harvesting king salmon in the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage must also immediately record whether the harvested fish is greater or less than 28 inches;

(3) the annual limit is five king salmon per angler, not more than two of which may be taken from the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage; and not more than one king salmon taken from the Nushagak/Mulchatna drainage may exceed 28 inches in length.

Frank Rue  
Commissioner

By delegation to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dan O. Dunaway  
Area Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Through July 5, 1999, over 34,000 king salmon have been estimated by the department's sonar at Portage Creek. The department projects there will be sufficient king salmon for subsistence needs, and over 40,000 king salmon will reach the spawning grounds by the end of the run. In addition, the department projects there will be sufficient numbers of king salmon to support a limited sport harvest.

The Nushagak Chinook Salmon Management Plan directs the department to close the sport fishery and restrict the inriver subsistence fishery when the department projects the spawning escapement to be less than 40,000 fish. The department projects that the 40,000 king salmon will be available for spawning after subsistence and a limited sport harvest occur. Therefore, the restrictions to the sport fishery effective July 2 (E.O. 2-KS-5-10-99) are no longer warranted. The sport fishery for Nushagak/Mulchatna drainage king salmon will re-open, and anglers are allowed an annual limit of two king salmon, only one of which may exceed 28 inches in length. In addition to the normal recording requirements, anglers are required to record whether the length of their harvested king salmon is greater or less than 28 inches.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Lt. Governor; Commissioner of Fish and Game; Office of Governor (Anchorage); Director, Sport Fish; Regional Supervisor, Sport Fish; Regional Supervisor, Commercial Fish; News Media, Radio, TV, and Newspapers; Department of Public Safety; Board of Fisheries Members; Sport Fish Area Offices; Commercial Fish Area Offices.